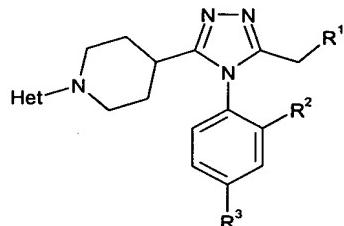


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula (I),



(I)

5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, wherein:

Het represents 2-pyridinyl or 2-pyrimidinyl;

R¹ represents H, C₁₋₃ alkyl or a nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring having 5 or 6 ring atoms;

R² represents H, benzyl or C₁₋₃ alkyl; and

10 R³ represents H, methyl, methoxy or chloro.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein Het represents 2-pyridinyl.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein R¹ represents 1,2,3-triazolyl.

4. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein R² represents H or
15 methyl.

5. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein R³ represents chloro.

6. A compound as claimed in claim 1 or claim 4, wherein at least one of R¹, R² and
R³ represents a group other than H.

7. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R¹ represents 1,2,3-triazolyl and/or R³
20 represents chloro.

8. A compound according to claim 1, selected from

2-{4-[4-(2-Ethyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-pyrimidine;

2-{4-[5-Methyl-4-(2-propyl-phenyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-pyrimidine;

2-{4-[4-(2-Isopropyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-pyrimidine

25 4-(5-Morpholin-4-ylmethyl-4-phenyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

4-(5-Butyl-4-phenyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

4-(4-Phenyl-5-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

30 4-(5-Methyl-4-phenyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

4-[4-(4-Methoxy-2-methyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

- 4-[4-(4-Chloro-2-methyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2]bipyridinyl;
- 4-(5-Methyl-4-o-tolyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 4-[4-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 5 [1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 4-[4-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-5-[1,2,3]triazol-2-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 4-[4-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 10 4-(4-o-Tolyl-5-[1,2,3]triazol-2-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 4-[4-(4-Chloro-2-methyl-phenyl)-5-[1,2,3]triazol-2-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 4-(4-Phenyl-5-[1,2,3]triazol-2-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 15 [1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 4-[4-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-5-[1,2,3]triazol-2-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 4-(5-Methyl-4-p-tolyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 4-[4-(2,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 20 [1,2']bipyridinyl;
- 4-[4-(4-Chloro-2-methyl-phenyl)-5-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl; and
- pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives thereof.
9. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 as a medicament.
- 25 10. A method of treatment of a disorder selected from anxiety, cardiovascular disease (including angina, atherosclerosis, hypertension, heart failure, edema, hypernatremia), dysmenorrhoea (primary and secondary), endometriosis, emesis (including motion sickness), intrauterine growth retardation, inflammation (including rheumatoid arthritis), mittlesmerchz, preclampsia, premature ejaculation, premature (preterm) labor and Raynaud's disease,
- 30 comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 to a patient suffering from such a disorder.
11. A method according to claim 10 wherein the disorder is dysmenorrhoea (primary or secondary).
12. A method according to claim 11 wherein the disorder is primary dysmenorrhoea.
- 35 13. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a disorder selected from anxiety, cardiovascular disease (including angina, atherosclerosis, hypertension, heart failure, edema, hypernatremia), dysmenorrhoea (primary and secondary), endometriosis, emesis (including motion sickness), .

intrauterine growth retardation, inflammation (including rheumatoid arthritis), mittlesmerchz, preclampsia, premature ejaculation, premature (preterm) labor and Raynaud's disease.

14. Use according to claim 13 wherein the disorder is dysmenorrhoea (primary and secondary).
- 5 15. Use according to claim 14 wherein the disorder is primary dysmenorrhoea.
16. A pharmaceutical formulation including a compound according to any of claims 1 to 8 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluent or carrier;
17. A pharmaceutical product containing a V1a antagonist according to any of claims 10 1 to 8 in combination with a compound selected from (a) an oral contraceptive, (b) a PDE5 inhibitor, (c) an NO donor, (d) L-arginine, or (e) a COX inhibitor, as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in the treatment of dysmenorrhoea.